

The House Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security offers the following substitute to HB 487:

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Article 6 of Chapter 3 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to the Disaster Volunteer Relief Act, so as to authorize certain employees of state
3 agencies to be granted leave from work with pay in order to participate in specialized disaster
4 relief services; to provide for a short title; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Robert Argo Disaster Volunteer Relief
8 Act."

9 **SECTION 2.**

10 Article 6 of Chapter 3 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
11 Disaster Volunteer Relief Act, is amended by revising Code Section 38-3-93, relating to
12 authorizing certain employees of state agencies to be granted leave from work with pay in
13 order to participate in specialized disaster relief services, as follows:

14 "38-3-93.

15 (a) An employee of a state agency who is a certified disaster service volunteer of the
16 American Red Cross may be granted leave from his or her work with pay for ~~not to exceed~~
17 no more than 15 workdays in any 12 month period to participate in specialized disaster
18 relief services for the American Red Cross, upon the request of the American Red Cross
19 for the services of that employee and upon the approval of that employee's agency and
20 coordinated through the director of emergency management, without loss of seniority, pay,
21 vacation time, compensatory time, sick time, or earned overtime accumulation. The state
22 agency shall compensate an employee granted leave under this Code section at his or her
23 regular rate of pay for those regular hours during which the employee is absent from work.
24 Leave under this article shall be granted only for the services related to a disaster occurring
25 within this state or in a contiguous state which has a reciprocal statutory provision.

(b) An employee of a state agency who is a certified disaster service volunteer of the Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary of the United States Air Force may be granted leave from his or her work with pay for no more than 15 workdays in any 12 month period to participate in specialized emergency services operations for the Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary of the United States Air Force, upon the request of the Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary of the United States Air Force after being activated by a county emergency management agency, the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, or a comparable federal agency for the services of that employee and upon the approval of that employee's agency and coordinated through the director of emergency management, without loss of seniority, pay, vacation time, compensatory time, sick time, or earned overtime accumulation. This provision applies only to service rendered on a numbered mission in support of a county emergency management agency, the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, or a comparable federal agency. The state agency shall compensate an employee granted leave under this Code section at his or her regular rate of pay for those regular hours during which the employee is absent from work. Leave under this article shall be granted only for the services related to a disaster occurring within this state or in a contiguous state which has a reciprocal statutory provision."

SECTION 3.

44 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.